

Remarks

The Office Action rejected claims 2-4, 9-16, 19 and 21-28 under 35 U.S.C. 251 as being broadened in a reissue application filed outside the two-year statutory period.

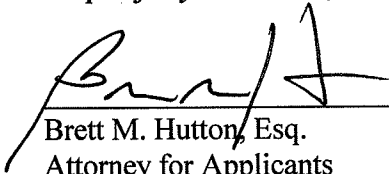
Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended by the Special Examiner, Edwin Westin, to its counsel during the telephone conference on March 17, 2008. During this conference, the Examiner indicated that claims 2-4, 9-16, 19 and 21 should not have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 251 as being broadened in a reissue application filed outside the two year statutory period because they were original claims, with original dependent claims 2, 9, 11, 14 , 19 and 21 being placed in independent form to include all recited limitations from the claims upon which they previously depended.

Applicant also adds dependent claims 22-26, which, by their very nature, are not broadening claims. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.173(d)(2), the changes are underlined. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claim 2-4, 9-16, 19 and 21-26 are respectfully requested.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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